

Report: Brandwein 9 February 2020 Search for Eagles.

The Brandwein Institute sponsored Dr. S. Marie Kuhnen Memorial Field Trip took place in the Delaware Valley on Sunday, 9 February 2020 from 8:00 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. It was 21 F degrees and overcast, inch of snow on the ground with some snow flurries. Winds were from the northwest on a cold, crisp, cloudy day. The day began with watching feeder birds at home and at the Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) with a start of 10 species. We logged 147 miles in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and Upper Delaware Scenic River from the Bushkill Access to where the trip concluded at the headwaters of the Lackawaxen River 3:30 p.m. 36 F degrees.

Jack Padalino, president emeritus of the Brandwein Institute, and PEEC led eleven participants on the search for 31 species of birds including 24 Bald Eagles (BE), 21 adults and 3 juveniles, 3 Red-tailed Hawks, and 1 Red-shouldered Hawk.



Our first BE was perched at the shale bank north of Toms Creek where a juvenile, probably a second year bird flew and landed. At the RT 209 mile marker 17 nest, the third BE was perched. The forth and fifth were seen from the Laurel Grove, Port Jervis cemetery, one perched in New Jersey and the other flying above us with a stick in its talons. Two White-winged Crossbills were at the Hawks Nest overlook. Two adult BEs were perched on the same limb proximal to the nest near Homemyer Road. Another was high in the Pond Eddy perch tree. On the way to the Mogaup Observation area at the Ukrainian Wooden Church a BE flew above the caravan and perched. As we crossed the bridge at the Observation Blind, we drew a blank, no BEs; however, 50 Common

and 6 Hooded Mergansers was well as Black Ducks were there. The Plank Road nest had an adult BE in it and below nearer the water was a perched juvenile. Returning to the Delaware we sighted a perched adult BE upriver from the Pond Eddy bridge. We added 4 more BEs by the time we reached the

Roebling Bridge where we added 2 perched adult BEs above the waterfall on the NY side of the river. Two more perched adults were observed from the Zane Gray site We added 1 more perched juvenile BE along the Lackawaxen and at Appert Road two perched adults were upstream from where last search we discovered the ninth nest we are observing.

Future Searches for Eagles: Sundays, March 1 & 8.

TO PARTICIPATE IN A SEARCH FOR EAGLES FIELD TRIP

PHONE: 845.325.0536 AND INDICATE WHICH FIELD TRIP(s) YOU WILL BE ATTENDING.

Meet 8:00 a.m. at the PEEC parking lot
OR meet 10:00 a.m. at the North entrance to the DWGNRA, 200 yards south on Route 209 South from the Milford Bridge.

WEATHER PERMITTING Dress warmly, bring binoculars, field guides, and a lunch.

THERE IS NO CHARGE

Eagle data that we collect is shared with members of the Sussex County Bird Club, Eagle Institute, and Hawk Migration Association of North America HMANA. An Eagle identification field guide and "Search for Eagles" instructional material will be provided for participants by the Paul F-Brandwein Institute. Join us to Search For Eagles our nation's symbol.



In addition to the 24 Bald Eagles we observed:

Canada Goose
Mallard
Black Duck
Common Merganser
Hooded Merganser
Turkey Vulture
Bald Eagle
Red-tailed Hawk
Red-shouldered Hawk
Ring-billed Gull
Mourning Dove
Rock Pigeon

Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Carolina Wren
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
American Crow
Common Raven
Blue Jay
European Starling
White-throated Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Northern Cardinal
White-winged Crossbill
House Finch
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow

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